

W-03512A-08-0582
W-03513A-08-0582
W-20640A-08-0582



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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMIS

ORIGINAL

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Carmen Madrid

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2008 74105

Date: 12/19/2008

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Joan

Smith

Account Name: Joan Smith

Home: (000) 000-0000

Street:

Work: (000) 000-0000

City: Pine

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: 85544

is:

Utility Company: Pine Water Co., Inc.

Division: Strawberry View 1

Contact Name:

Arizona Corporation Commission Contact Phone:

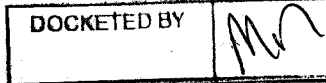
Nature of Complaint:

December 15, 2008

DOCKETED

DEC 22 2008

Arizona Corporation Commission
Utilities Division
1200 W Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007



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2008 DEC 22 P 12:13
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Docket Number: W-20640 A-08-0582

I urge the ACC to prevent the current Pine-Strawberry Water Improvement District (PSWID) board from taking further actions to acquire and privatize ownership of the water companies now owned by Brookes Utilities. I believe that proper oversight provided by the ACC must continue in order to protect the average residential user residing in Pine and Strawberry.

As an educated, health services professional who has owned and resided in my Strawberry home for 28 years, I know about my neighbors, and we share common bonds. Yet, I have been singled out by others, told that I was uninformed, therefore unqualified to have an opinion, and accused of working for the water company, which is far from the truth. And, it was said I was spreading lies - these were comments made about me in the local press - because I oppose the purchase of local water company by the PSWID board. I was told too that I should attend the PSWID board meeting "to learn the truth" Yet, this is a board that successfully managed to recall the four members who did know the truth and opposed the direction the board was taking to acquire the local water company, Brookes Utilities. I am to understand that it is a board now composed entirely of attorneys and realtors. Should I come to the board meetings to be singled out?, not on my life!

I feel that there are many living here that share by belief. Some are commuters from the valley, and the private lives of many in these tough economic times require that they concern themselves with more immediate family matters. Nonetheless, that the PSWID intends to purchase and privatize the water company, concerns everyone living here. This action, some have said, is not at all necessary or warranted in the current financial climate, in

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order to continue maintaining the current level of water consumption. If the PSWID orchestrates the purchase of Brookes Utilities for purpose of expanding and controlling the availability of water to current and potential users, it has been written that this may very well have immense financial impact on users over time. The ACC needs to continue protecting us with the oversight of the PSWID, and the water company as a public utility.

This is true, I have never experienced a water shortage, nor incurred any water hauling charges, at any time while living in Strawberry. Brookes Utilities has had water delivery and maintenance problems which required temporary stoppages for repair, but the water was there, which I used sparingly. However, residents in Pine have had water shortages.

Newer water wells need to be drilled, but this does not require the privatizing of the water company in order to accomplish this task

Based on the forecasted financial climate, as well as what has been reported about the PSWID board, exposing ineffectiveness in managing it's public relations and actions according to popular opinion, I am afraid I face a future with major water use assessments, fees, charges and whatever other additional and excessive costs should the water company be purchased, privatized and no longer regulated as a public utility. I read that it will cost likely more than \$9 million initially to acquire the water company, and I fear that much more will be paid by me in order to help retire the debt in return, I still get to have my tap water. And where will the rest of the water be going?

Sincerely,
Joan P Smith

Strawberry, AZ 85544
End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

12/19/08 opinion noted and filed in dockets number W-03512A-08-0582; W-03513A-08-0582 and W-20640A-08-0528. closed
End of Comments

Date Completed: 12/19/2008

Opinion No. 2008 - 74105
